

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

Techniques are provided for implementing and using a hierarchy-based secured document repository. The invention, the repository allows each user access to documents based on the position(s) held by the user in the hierarchy of a company. In one embodiment, the repository includes data that reflects the hierarchy of a company ("hierarchy data"), where the hierarchy includes nodes and relationships between nodes. The repository also includes user-to-node mapping data that maps users to one or more nodes, and document-to-node mapping data that maps documents to nodes. An access mechanism is provided that determines which document a user is able to access based on the hierarchy data, the user-to-node mapping data, and the document-to-node mapping data. In one embodiment, a user is allowed to access only those documents that are (1) mapped to the same node as the user, or (2) mapped to nodes that are below (relative to the hierarchy) any of the nodes to which the user is mapped.